GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:92
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
MINERS SUFFERING FROM DISEASES
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of miners suffering from notified diseases in mines Under Section 25 of the Mines Act, 1952;

(b) whether the Government has taken any measure to save the lives of such miners;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check and control such diseases?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a): The details of cases of diseases notified under Section 25 of the Mines Act, 1952 reported to the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) during the last five years is given below:

Year	Coal Worker`s Pneumoconiosis	Silicosis	Manganese Poisoning	Asbestosis	Lung Cancer
2000	9	3	-	-	-
2001	2	1	-	-	-
2002	1	79	-	-	-
2003	3	14	-	-	-
2004	41	12	-	-	-

Provisional
Includes 66 cases of silicosis reported by Desert Medicine Research Institute, Jodhpur.

(b) & (c): The Mines Acts, 1952 and the Rules and Regulation framed there under provide the necessary measures for ensuring the safety of miners. The Officers of the DGMS ensure that the mine owners follow these provisions by making regular and periodic inspections of mines.

(d): The Government has taken comprehensive steps for prevention and control of notified diseases in mines. The measures undertaken by the government include;

1. Formulation and regular updating of Mines Act and subordinate legislations.

2. Enforcement of legislative provision through regular inspection of mines by the officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety.

3. Legal action in the form of prohibitory orders and prosecution in case of repeated violations of legislative provisions.

4. Studies and surveys for detection of notified diseases.

5. Tripartite and bipartite conferences.
6. Awareness and training programmes for workers and employers.

7 Issue of DGMS Technical Circulars.